

INSIDE

Hibachi  
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"Serving Elba and Coffee County  
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Est. 1897

INSIDE

Elba's Richardson  
receives  
recognition for  
softball



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 05

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, June 22, 2023

1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

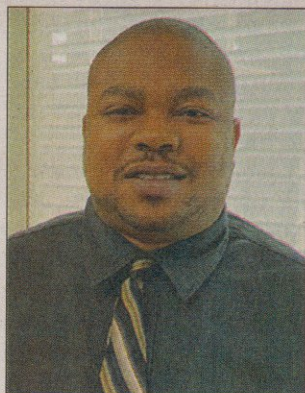
## Elba Police Chief placed on administrative leave with pay

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The City of Elba announced this week that Harold (Troy) Staley had been placed on administrative leave from his duties as Chief of Police in Elba.

An official statement released Tuesday morning, June 20, by Elba City Clerk Sally Bane, noted that Staley was placed on administrative leave with pay Saturday, June 17th. According to the statement Staley is on this administrative leave until further notice.

City officials offered no



Troy Staley  
(file photo)

further details on the circumstances that led to Staley being placed on adminis-

trative leave.

The Elba City Council voted Monday, Nov. 29, 2021, to confirm the appointment made by Mayor Tom Maddox to hire Staley as Elba's Chief of Police. At that time, a committee had interviewed six applicants from a total of 18 for the job with Staley being Maddox's top pick.

Prior to coming to Elba as Chief of Police, Staley worked as a patrol sergeant with the Opp Police Department.

In the interim, with Staley on administrative leave, city officials said Lieutenant Ian Shayne Arnett would act as Chief of Police. Also, Lieutenant Russ Young will serve as the point of contact for E911 dispatch services.

Both Arnett and Young are longtime employees with the Elba Police Department. Arnett was serving the city as interim police chief when Staley was hired in 2021.

### REMINDER:

The last day to register for youth football/cheer with the Elba Parks and Rec is Friday, June 30th. Register online at [elba.recedesk.com](http://elba.recedesk.com)



**NEW MARQUEE ARRIVES FOR ELBA THEATRE...**A truck rolled into downtown Elba earlier this week carrying a new bright, shiny marquee sign for the Elba Theatre, located on Court Street in Elba. Installation for the new sign began on Tuesday. This has been a long-awaited addition for the theatre building, which is operated by the Restoration 154 organization in Elba. A new marquee sign is just one more thing to mark off the renovations checklist for the local venue.

## ZC Bass Team competes in state championships

Lincoln Landing on beautiful Logan Martin Lake hosted the Alabama BASS Nation High School State Championship Tournament June 2 and 3, 2023. Based on their performance in their regular season, Zion Chapel's team Padgett/Young qualified to fish this championship tournament.

This tournament is made up of the top finishers in the Tiger Division (south Alabama) and the Tide Division (north Alabama). A total of 204 boats competed in this tournament.

Logan Martin Lake is a reservoir located in east central Alabama on the Coosa River approximately 30 miles east of Birmingham.

Extending 48.5 miles from the dam upstream to Neely Henry Dam, the shore length totals 275 miles.

Located partially in Calhoun, St. Clair, and Talladega Counties, Logan Martin draws anglers who are seeking largemouth and spotted bass.

As Avery Padgett stated, "What a week it was!" They had spent four days practicing for the state championship with hopes of ending the season with a win, but that did not happen.

After four days of practicing, Team Padgett/Young had a good plan and had found big fish. However, Padgett said when Day One came if anything could go

wrong, it did that day. From losing them to breaking them off, they just could not get them in the boat. He said they definitely had the bites on day one to put them way up the leader board, but it just didn't go their way.

After an amazing senior year on the water, Team Padgett/Young felt that they were bound to have "one of those days," and this was indeed one of them.

At the end of two days of tournament fishing, although they caught their limit each day, they ended in 64th place out of 204 boats. It was a long way from the

See ZCBT, Page 8

## DHR seeking foster homes for elderly, disabled adults

As the state's population ages, the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) is seeking adult foster homes to help protect and care for vulnerable adults at risk for mistreatment.

Adult foster care enables at-risk elderly and disabled adults to stay in homes instead of institutional settings when relocation is necessary to keep them safe.

More than 600 vulnerable adults in Alabama are placed some-

where in her care has been the highlight of her two years in the program.

"Since the ladies arrived in my home, they all have shown dramatic improvement," Young said. "All had been very much at risk for abuse and neglect before, but they do not have to worry about that anymore. We all work together and support each other like one big family."

Nearly 18% of Alabamians are 65 or older, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The elderly population has continued to expand in recent years, running parallel to increasing reports of adult abuse, neglect and exploitation.

DHR's Adult Protective Services Division received 12,033 reports statewide in fiscal year 2022, an increase

of nearly 115% in the past 10 years. Those interested in becoming adult foster care providers are encouraged to contact a county DHR office. More information, including eligibility requirements, is available at [dhr.alabama.gov/AEC](http://dhr.alabama.gov/AEC).

DHR also reminds the public to report suspected adult abuse, neglect and exploitation by calling the Adult Abuse Hotline at 1-800-458-7214, emailing [aps@dhr.alabama.gov](mailto:aps@dhr.alabama.gov) or contacting a county DHR office. Warning signs include:

- Increased fear or anxiety
- Isolation from friends or family
- Withdrawal from normal activities
- Unusual changes in behavior or sleep
- Unexplained injuries, bruises, cuts or sores
- Unsanitary living conditions and poor hygiene
- Unusual or sudden changes in financial spending patterns, wills or other important documents.

## Area Happenings

**The Elba Lions Club will meet** Tuesday, June 27, at 6 p.m., at the Elba Senior Citizens Center in downtown Elba. All members are encouraged to be present.

**The Elba Public Library's Summer Learning Program** will be held June 1 - July 28 this year. This program is fun for all ages, including adults. For more information, call (334) 897-6921 or email - [library@elbaal.gov](mailto:library@elbaal.gov).

**A book signing with Evangelist Shirley Pruitt** will be held Friday, June 30, at the Elba Public Library beginning at 11 a.m. Pruitt, an Elba native, is the author of "I Will Not Be Denied".

**Elba's Fourth of July celebration - Let Freedom Ring** - will be Tuesday, July 4, on the square in downtown Elba. Sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce and City of Elba, the event will begin at 6 p.m. and will include a golf cart parade, inflatables for kids, contests, food concessions, entertainment by Blind Skeleton [featuring Elba native Bill Brueckner], and, of course, fireworks! Make plans now to spend the 4th in Elba.

## Registration for Master Gardener Intern Course open

Registration for the Coffee County Master Gardener Intern Course for Fall 2023 is open and will close June 30, 2023.

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System announced, "You do not have to be a garden expert. Simply come with a desire to learn and grow."

Master Gardeners are extension-trained volunteers who get connected to gardening information and educational opportunities. To become a Master Gardener, applicants must complete 50 hours of volunteer work in various community projects and a 14-week horticulture training course. The course cost is \$150, which covers the book, class materials, name badge, and t-shirt.

The Alabama Master Gardener Course is taught by extension agents and horticulture specialists. Fall class topics include soils and plant nutrition, basic botany, integrated pest management, plant diseases, beneficial and pest insects, plant care and



management, vegetables, fruit, woody ornamentals, annuals and perennials and home lawns.

The 14-week hybrid training course combines online learning with face-to-face labs at the Coffee County Extension office. It will begin August 10th.

The Master Gardener program is for any who wish to learn more about gardening and have a desire

to help beautify their community with volunteer gardening projects.

For more details, call the Coffee County Extension office at 334-894-5596 or apply at [www.aces.edu/go/mgv](http://www.aces.edu/go/mgv)

## News Brief

According to an article published Wednesday, June 14, in The Messenger newspaper [Troy, Ala.] current Elba High School counselor Buffy Lusk was approved for employment Tuesday, June 13, by the Pike County Board of Education.

The article noted that Lusk would be employed as counselor at Goshen High School.

The next Elba Board of Education meeting is tentatively set for Tuesday evening, June 27, at 5:30 p.m.

# WARNING

## DO NOT LEAVE CHILDREN OR PETS IN HOT CARS!



### CALL 911

IF YOU SEE A CHILD OR PET IN A HOT CAR AND BELIEVE THEY ARE IN IMMINENT DANGER OF PHYSICAL INJURY OR DEATH





## EDITORIAL

## BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

*"I saw a movie once where only the police and military have guns. It was called Schindler's List."*  
- Unknown

"Debt Crisis" is a catch phrase that is being batted around in Washington these days. Of course the legislature is split right along party lines but frankly it is the truth. In our homes we reach a point when borrowing money stops when there is just no where else to borrow because there is no visible way of paying it back. The federal government solves that issue by just printing more greenbacks or selling deep pocket investors a revenue bond. Us folks out in all the rest of America pay the prices of the newly printed billions with a (taxable) dollar pay raise and a two (or three) dollar increase in the price of food, houses, etc. WE all like it when the federal dollars flow into the community as 'grants' but remember... the government doesn't have a single dollar that it doesn't get from the taxpayers (until they print some).

The news Monday was that Hunter Biden, son of the president, will plead guilty to federal tax charges and lying about drug use when purchasing a handgun. The misdemeanor tax charges are something that happens to lots of folks, but this guy is the son of the U. S. President. We expect the punishment to be minor, but mostly very embarrassing for the Biden family. But he is stepping up and facing the bullet, which will surely make the punishment much less than if he had fought the charges.

We can't help but compare Hunter's accepting things and Donald Trump's fighting (and denying) the mess over the classified documents he refused to return to the proper authorities. Odds are that if he has said, "Oops, I messed up but here are the secret documents," his involvement would only be a blip in the history books. Whatever happens he now will go in the history books as the first former president to be indicted in federal court. We like the words of Ohio U.S. Representative Mike Turner, who said, "I'm certainly not going to defend the behavior that is listed in that complaint, but they're going to have to prove it." That is about as fair as anyone has addressed the pending charges against Donald Trump.

Activity at City Hall is constantly generating new things. Some of it is good and some not so good... that is life. This week the action is the news of placing the Elba police chief on administrative leave. The streets are active with rumors relating to this event, but city officials are only saying the bare facts, acknowledging he is on administrative leave. Stay tuned for the second act of this play!!



The Moore You Know Column: Equal justice under law?

The phrase "Equal justice under law", based upon the 14th Amendment, is engraved on the front of the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. and is foundational to our justice system. But under the Biden Administration, equal justice has morphed into weaponized government. Biden's corrupt Justice Department has

gone after parents, Catholic parishioners, pro-life Christians, and now his top political opponent, Donald J. Trump.

For years, the mainstream media has breathlessly reported on supposed schemes to influence our elections on behalf of Republicans. Yet the real evidence we have of election engineering is

Biden indicting his opponent of espionage for mishandling classified documents by keeping them in a locked bathroom. Never mind President Clinton's sock drawer, Hilary Clinton's e-mails, or Biden's own garage.

America's political battles belong at the ballot box,

not in the hands of Biden's weaponized Justice Department.

\*\*\*  
From gas stoves to pistol braces, President Biden and the radical left want to use the bureaucracy to control

Continued on Page 6

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, June 13, 2023, and Monday, June 19, 2023, conducted the following activity:

**Tuesday, June 13** – Suspicious circumstances reported at 919 Flourmoy Dr (2:29 a.m.); Lost/found property reported at 1584 Caroline St (7:40 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 1215 Jones Circle (2:27 p.m.); Structure fire reported at 441 Plant Ave (8:39 p.m.).

**Wednesday, June 14** – Theft of property reported 221 Davis St W (11:16 a.m.); Suspicious person reported on Reese Ave – w/warning issued (12:12 p.m.).

**Thursday, June 15** – Harassment vehicle reported at Annie's (1:45 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 1397 Hwy 84 (2:24 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 832 Troy Hwy (7:36 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a written warning.

**Friday, June 16** – Suspicious person reported on Hwy 87 (5:11 a.m.); Missing person reported at 7095 County Rd 410 (6:27 a.m.); Theft of property reported to Elba Police

(10:59 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 518 Williams Ave (2:02 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 923 Neil Grantham Dr (10:45 p.m.).

**Saturday, June 17** – Suspicious person reported on Reese Ave (4:18 a.m.); Criminal mischief reported on West St (4:34 a.m.); Traffic accident reported on Hwy 84 (12:47 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Herman Driggers Dr (2:49 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 460 County Rd 401 (4:45 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at Powell Circle, Lot 12 (7:38 p.m.). Three traffic stops resulted in two verbal warnings, and one citation.

**Sunday, June 18** – Harassment reported on West St (1:06 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 199 Virgil Coleman Dr (2:47 p.m.); Death investigation reported at 154 Yelverton Ave (3:41 p.m.). Three traffic stops resulted in one arrest, and two verbal warnings.

**Monday, June 19** – Noise complaint reported at 617 Putnam St (12:23 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1863 Reese Ave (12:15 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 2209 Taylor Mill Rd (12:28 p.m.); Stolen vehicle reported at 750 Herman Driggers Dr (1:18 p.m.); Theft of property reported to Elba Police (3:04 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 2209 Taylor Mill Rd (3:44 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 20404 Hwy 87 (3:45 p.m.); Report of shots fired on Beaver Dam St (6:16 p.m.); Harassment reported to Elba Police (7:21 p.m.).



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

It has been stormy recently, and Cuzin Lou Lou and the Gang are beginning to feel water-logged. They are grateful for the rain the area has received but admit it would be even better to come without severe storms attached!

Last Wednesday night, the Gang fell into the category that many others experienced – no electricity for several hours. Admittedly, it is no fun to "sit in the dark" with most everything in the house not working due to no juice to power them, but Lou Lou decided during the three-plus hours the Gang had to survive without electricity that it is not all bad either.

The Gang was lucky in that Papa had available a battery pack in which he keeps charged at all times. This made way for Lou Lou to utilize some USB-powered photography lights she owns. Papa's battery pack contains several USB plug-ins and that powered Lou Lou's lights to keep the Gang from sitting completely in the dark for the outage.

Even better, the lights are LED so they lit up the living room of the Yonder Gang's house extremely well!

Those USB plug-ins became even more important when Sister realized her Kindle, which she uses to read her books, was almost out of charge too! She was about to go into panic mode when Lou Lou informed her that all she had to do was plug the USB cord from her Kindle into Papa's batter pack, and it would provide her more charge to be able to read.

That was one meltdown averted. However, Sister was not thrilled with the slower than usual charging the batter pack provided in comparison to fully working

electrical outlets. So, while a meltdown was averted, there still was a bit of whining.

In the meantime, Lou Lou and Sister pulled out the UNO cards, and went "old school" with passing the quiet time. They got in several games before the electricity was seemingly restored. The lights came on for about five minutes and then went out again!

This time, Sister wasn't as willing to hold off on her complaints. It was getting closer and closer to bedtime, and she made it known that she would not be a happy camper if she had to "go to bed with no air conditioning running nor her personal fan blowing on her throughout the night. Lou Lou fueled the fire even more by saying she wasn't warm at all... in fact, she told Sister she needed a blanket to cover up because she was a bit chilly!

Thanks to those LED photography lights, Lou Lou did not miss the giant eyeroll she received from Sister when she said that about the blanket.

Fortunately, the second outage only last about another 30-40 minutes and the local electrical crew had the Gang up and running again! Sister could go to bed with her A/C running and her fan blowing on high. This also meant Lou Lou could get a good night's rest by avoiding a highly annoyed Sister.

As Lou Lou reflected over the evening, first and foremost, she was grateful to the Yonder electrical workers that got out that night after the storms passed and restored the town's electricity as quickly as they were able to do so. The folks in Yonder had power restored by the local electrical crew much quicker than some of the surrounding areas!

Also, Lou Lou realized that in sitting on the couch talking with Papa and Sister, snuggling with Little Bean, and even playing UNO – these were things that would not have necessarily happened for as long as they did that evening had it not been for the power outage. Instead, Lou Lou most likely would have been sitting at her computer working on one of her many projects, she would have been doing housework, or everyone would have been in their own spaces glued to the television, etc. Not being able to do any of those things, the Gang sat and spent quality time together relaxing and enjoying one another's company (well...except for the few times Sister needed to whine just a little bit).

That 3-plus hour power outage served as a good reminder to Lou Lou to actually slow down every once and a while and enjoy the simpler things in life! Plain 'ole conversation is good for the soul every now and again!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling.

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6 months - \$13  
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15





**RESIDENT OF THE MONTH...**Myra Kelley has been selected as the Serenity South assisted living facility's "Resident of the Month" for June. She is 86-years-old and likes to go shopping, and reading. She is a member of Basin Baptist Church. Myra has one son and one granddaughter, both of which she loves dearly. Myra has two sisters, Janice Hall and Patsy Goodson. She also has a bunch of nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

**LITTLE MISS Firecracker**

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ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

## Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com)

### DONALD BRYANT

Mr. Donald Bryant, age 81, a resident of Elba, Ala., died Friday, June 16, 2023, at his home in the Damascus Community. Private memorial services will be held at a later date. Hayes Funeral Home is serving the Bryant family.

Mr. Bryant was preceded in death by his parents, Frances Bell Sutley Bryant, and Ed Bryant; along with two children, Michael Bryant, and Anita Bryant.

Survivors include a niece whom he loved as his own: April Coppage, Elba; a daughter: Angie Tillery, Elba; sisters: Sue Cauley, Jeanette Daughtry, and Lela Parker, all of Elba, and Linda Ball, Pawnee Rock, Kan.; brothers: Phillip Bryant, Pigeon Forge, Tenn., Willie Bryant, Skipperville, Ala., and Ralph Bryant, Opp, Ala.; along with 11 grandchildren.

### DUANE JOHN KELLNER

Mr. Duane John Kellner, age 85, a native of Medford, Wis., and longtime resident of Elba and Dothan, Ala., departed his earthly life Wednesday, June 14, 2023.

He was a proud Army Veteran who loved vintage cars, and tractors. He also enjoyed old western movies and watching car auctions. Roaming a hardware store and working outside or in the garage was also a favorite pastime.

After his service in the Army, Duane worked offshore for Shell Oil Company and then finished his career as a helicopter mechanic at Fort Rucker.

The family will host a memorial service to honor and celebrate Duane's life on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at Aldridge Gardens, 3530 Lorna Rd., Hoover, AL 35216. The family requests in memory of Duane for memorial donations to be made to the Parkinson's Foundation: [www.parkinson.org](http://www.parkinson.org)

He is preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Alvina Kellner; and his brother, Andrew Kellner Jr. Survivors include his adoring wife of 61 years: Helen Plant Kellner; his son: Scott Duane (Kara) Kellner; his daughter: Stephanie Michele (Joe) Kellner-Fiumefreddo; his grandson: Noah Kellner; three siblings: Clarise (Lee) Sheild, Deloria "Dee" Barron, Don (Shirley) Kellner.

### WILLIAM GREGORY "GREG" BRUNSON

William Gregory "Greg" Brunson, age 66, of Elba, Ala., died Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at his home in Elba. Memorial services were held Saturday, June 17, 2023, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Michael Woodham and Rev. Kit Johnson officiating.

Greg was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur Claire and Emma Elizabeth Brunson; and a brother, Buddy Brunson.

Survivors include his wife: Janet Brunson, Elba; daughters: Allison Lee (Ashton) Mashburn, Montgomery, Ala., and Jana Graves, Elba; sons: William Christopher (Samantha) Brunson, Prattville, Ala., and Jerod (Ashley) Simmons, New Brockton, Ala.; grandson: Riley Simmons, New Brockton; granddaughters: Felicity Graves, and Breanna Graves, both of Elba; sister: Victoria English, Decatur, Ala.; brother: Winston (Dee) Brunson, Enterprise, Ala.; and his four legged son, Sam, who was a constant companion.

### OMEGA FARRIS

Mr. Omega Farris, age 86, of New Brockton, Ala., died Sunday, June 11, 2023.

Omega was born in Elba, Ala., on April 10, 1937. He was the proprietor of Farris Superette, a country store, gas station, and tire re-cap shop in Elba. He moved his family to Orlando in 1972 and excelled in the framing carpentry trade during the Disney building boom. He returned to New Brockton in 1993 and built his retirement home on family land. He was an Air Force veteran.

A memorial service will be held Friday, July 7, 2023, at 3 p.m., at Sunset Memorial Park Chapel in Midland City, Ala.

Survivors include his wife of 67 years: Sherry Thompson Farris; two sons and daughters-in-law: Gary (Linda) Farris, Hickory, N.C., Lenny (Pat) Farris, Winter Garden, Fla.; two daughters and sons-in-law: Rhonda Fletcher (Charles), Orlando, Fla., Lori Vilece (Robert), Lake Mary, Fla.; two sisters: Sara Margaret Farris Pietrantonio, Lady Lake; Katie Farris Hudson (Ted), Auburn, Ala.; eight grandchildren: Sarah Marze (James), Amanda Mayhue (Johnathan), Mark, Brooke, Brett, Kaylee, Daniel, Lindsey;

along with two great grandchildren: James and Ava.

### TAMRA LAWING

Ms. Tamra Lawing, age 73, of Equality, Ala., died Thursday, June 15, 2023, at Dadeville Health Care Center in Dadeville, Ala.

Graveside services were held Friday, June 16, 2023, from Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery with Derek Snellgrove officiating. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba, Ala. served the Lawing family.

Survivors include her son: Larry (Lucy) Lawing, Spring, Texas; daughter: Mary Ann Lawing, Houston, Texas; grandsons: Cameron (Ashley) Lawing, and Clayton Lawing, both of Montgomery, Ala.

### PATRICIA DENNIS MEDLEY

Mrs. Patricia Dennis Medley, age 39, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, June 18, 2023, at the Riviera Motel in Elba.

No formal services will be held. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba is serving the Medley family.

Survivors include her husband: Shane Dwight Nelson, Brewton, Ala.; mother: Sharon Ann Pugh, Elba; daughter: Lacey Lane Henderson, Elba; sons: Steven Fountain Medley,

and Zachery Ryan Medley, both of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Thomas Dennis, Elba; grandson: Stephen Medley, Colorado Springs; sister: Sharon Lynn Berry, Dozier, Ala.; and father: Lloyd T. Mitchell.

### JAMES ALLEN SIMMONS

Mr. James Allen Simmons, age 71, of Elba, Ala., died Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at Medical Center Enterprise in Enterprise, Ala.

Funeral services will be held Friday, June 23, 2023, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba, beginning at 11 a.m., with Rev. Dustin Wisecarver officiating. Burial will follow in the Wise Mill Assembly of God Cemetery. Visitation will be at Hayes Funeral Home on Friday from 10-11 a.m.

Mr. Simmons was preceded in death by his wife - Margaret Ann Simmons, daughter - Deborah Pugh, and sisters - Patricia Ann Johnson, and Linda Gail Jones.

Survivors include his daughter: Kasey (Justin) Odom, New Brockton, Ala.; son: Adam Meeks, Troy, Ala.; sister: Tereasa (Rick) Bludworth, Elba; and brother: Bobby (Donna) Simmons, Andalusia, Ala.

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Heath Wyrosdick, Funeral Director/Embalmer

**Hayes Funeral Home**

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### Options for Pallbearer Gifts

Although serving as a pallbearer is considered an honor by many, it is also important for surviving family members - specifically those arranging the funeral - to show their appreciation for the services these individuals provide. In some services, family members may fill this role if necessary, but most will ask close friends or congregation members to serve as active or honorary pallbearers. It is likely those fulfilling this role may find the experience emotional, and it is important to respect this response.

Providing a gift is a great way to say "thank you" and allow pallbearers to commemorate their own experience in the service. Some ideas for pallbearer gifts include:

Framed Photographs of the Deceased. Individuals may select a uniform photograph placed in a nice silver frame to give to all pallbearers, as a way for them to capture the memory of their deceased loved one. If possible, some may choose to personalize each gift by providing each pallbearer with a unique framed photo capturing his or her relationship with the deceased.

Customized Tokens of Appreciation. Those who want to do something special for the pallbearers' service may choose to select a customized gift for each individual. Apart from photographs, these tokens of appreciation may include simple jewelry pieces, pressed flowers from the funeral or an inscribed memorial plaque. Some may even choose to gift something of the deceased that correlates to his or her relationship with the pallbearer, such as a book or music album.

Thank You Notes. Although it is customary for pallbearers to send thank you notes to the surviving members of the family, those planning the funeral can also consider writing a message to honor the service of these individuals. Thank you notes can be brief and only need to express gratitude for support and service during the funeral.

There is no standard for pallbearer gifts, but those who opt to provide them should make sure the gesture is meaningful and honors the service - even if just a small token of gratitude.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at [hayeshf@hayesfuneralhome.net](mailto:hayeshf@hayesfuneralhome.net)

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225



# CHURCH NEWS

## PASTOR'S CORNER

by Steve Reneau, Pastor

Elba United Methodist Church

I invite you to read Matthew 10:24-39, and read the article below.

In a society driven by comfort, convenience, and individualism, the words of Jesus Christ, as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, continue to resonate with a countercultural message. It challenges believers to embrace a radical commitment to discipleship, urging them to let go of personal desires, take up their crosses, and follow Jesus.

In this powerful passage, Jesus prepares the disciples for the difficult journey that lies ahead. He reminds them that no servant is greater than their master, implying that they should not expect an easier path than the one Jesus has walked. The verse reads, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master" (Matthew 10:24, NRSV).

The passage further delves into the societal challenges that await those who choose to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. Jesus warns the disciples about the potential division within families and communities due to their faith. He says, "For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household" (Matthew 10:35-36, NRSV).

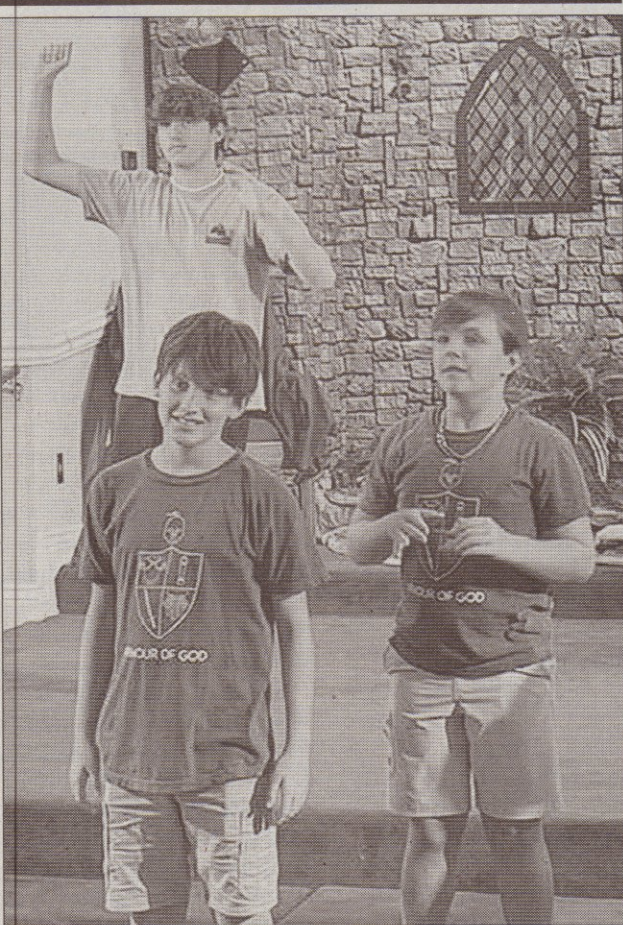
The radical demands of discipleship, as portrayed in this passage, include a willingness to bear the cross of persecution and self-sacrifice. Jesus declares, "Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 10:39, NRSV). These words highlight the paradoxical nature of Christian commitment, urging believers to let go of worldly attachments and trust in God's providence.

Moreover, Jesus encourages the disciples not to fear those who oppose their faith, reminding them of God's unwavering care and protection. He assures them, "Even the hairs of your head are all counted. So, do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows" (Matthew 10:30-31, NRSV). This reassurance strengthens the disciples' resolve and provides them with the courage to face persecution and rejection.

The passage challenges believers today to examine their commitment to Christ and evaluate the extent to which they have embraced His teachings. It calls for a radical transformation of priorities, where selflessness and faithfulness become paramount. Jesus' words serve as a reminder that following Him involves sacrifice and a willingness to bear the cost of discipleship.

This passage resonates with Christians across generations, reminding them that the call to discipleship is not an easy one. It prompts believers to reflect on their own lives and consider how they can live out their faith authentically in a world that often values personal comfort over sacrificial love.

As the world continues to grapple with various societal and moral challenges, this scripture remains a beacon of hope and a call to action. It challenges believers to embrace a counter-cultural commitment to their faith, urging them to follow Jesus, even in the face of adversity. As modern-day disciples seek to navigate a complex and rapidly changing world, these words of Jesus offer guidance, encouragement, and a reminder that true fulfillment is found in wholeheartedly following Him, regardless of the sacrifices involved.

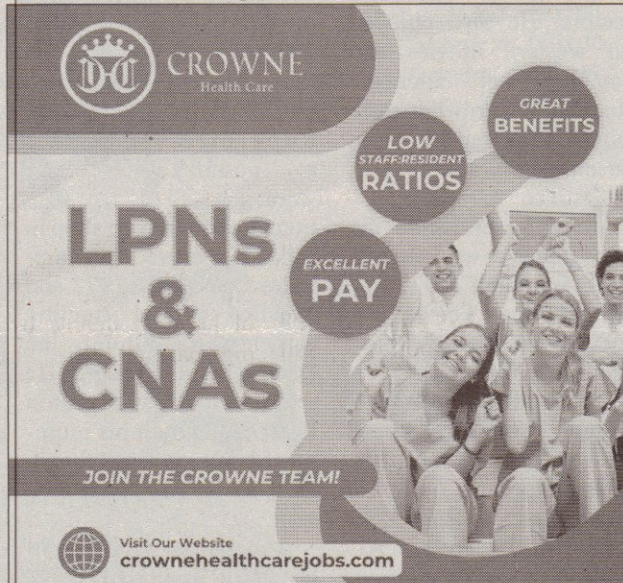


Basin Baptist Church, located on Hwy. 189 S, Elba, has been in full VBS mode this week as youngsters (ages PreK thru 6th Grade) have learned how they can be a part of God's Kingdom through salvation in his Son and be equipped with the armor of God as part of the "Keepers of the Kingdom" themed program. Above, Levi Daniels and Shaw Martin Cowen participate in the music class with their 4th-6th grade group. In the back, youth volunteer Reed Brewer assists as a music teacher for VBS.

## Chestnut Grove Methodist Church plans July 9th homecoming services

Chestnut Grove Methodist Church will hold its annual Homecoming Service on Sunday, July 9, beginning at 10:30 a.m. After the service lunch will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

Guest speaker will be Justin Barnes. Special



## Round and About

With Eria's Daughter

334-282-2200



**Scripture:** Hallelujah, meaning "Praise the Lord" [Psalm 150: 1-6]

**Thinking of You! Praying for You.**

Myron K. Duncan, Teachers, Government Officials, Doctors, Ministers, World Peace, Less Fortunate, Sharron Fitch, Isaiah Franklin Jr.

### July Birthdays

Flora Marson 7/19  
Rell Smith 7/20  
Nathan D. Smith 7/20  
KiKi Oliver 7/21  
Melvin Cross 7/21  
Ben Rayborn 7/21  
Tim Andrews 7/22  
Min. Randy Miller 7/22  
Shannon Grizzell 7/23  
Gavin Respress 7/23  
Mike Rowe 7/24  
Kobie Gray 7/24  
Inez Long 7/25

### 56th Annual Youth Rally of the Mulberry Missionary Baptist District will be

Saturday, June 24, at 10 a.m. at the Mulberry Educational Building, Elba, Ala. Theme will be Restore Unto Me the Joy of Thy Salvation [Psalm 51:12]. Dr. W.L. Peterson will be the moderator; Kaleb Mitchell, president; Skylar Mitchell, vice president; Promise Lindsey, secretary; Jamari Wright, devotion leader; Sis. Amy Jones and Sis. Alicia Kroher, youth advisors; Min. Pam Mitchell, youth counselor

### For Lack of Track Shoes

You couldn't find a more faithful woman than Hazel. Her son Donnie, however, was a different story; he had left the church immediately after graduating from high school. Now he was in his late 50s, and Hazel longed for her boy to come back to Christ. She begged me to visit him; I did.

"Would you mind telling me why you stopped attending church?" I asked Donnie. "In high school, I was a good distance runner. I even broke our league's mile record, but I ran every mile in my clodhoppers. The same shoes I wore to school – the only pair of shoes I owned," he explained. "I asked Mom and Dad for

a pair of track shoes, but they said we couldn't afford them. I reminded them of the flour canister in the cupboard. Every payday Dad would put money in there. I asked if we could use that money."

"Oh no!" they said. "That's the Lord's money. We made a pledge to the church. We can't use it for anything else! I went to the state meet, ran in my old shoes, and lost," Donnie continued sadly. "Track shoes would have made a difference."

Not know what to say, I responded, "I'm sorry, Donnie."

With misty eyes Donnie concluded, "I decided that if the God who owns the entire universe needed money more than I needed track shoes, He isn't much of a God."

I enjoyed my visit with Donnie and prayed for him often, but he never said yes to Jesus as far as I know. I could conclude here with "the moral of the story," but I think you know what it is. – C.T.

### Question / Answer Section

Q/A for the week of 6/22/23 Fill in the Blanks

Q: God resists the \_\_\_\_\_ but gives grace to the \_\_\_\_\_

A: proud; humble [James 4:6]

Q: By loving the brethren, we pass from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

A: death; life [1 John 3:14]

Q: The three that bear witness in earth are the Spirit, the Water, and the \_\_\_\_\_

A: Blood [1 John 5:8]

### Thought to Remember

The road to success is dotted with many tempting parking spaces.

### Questions for the Week of 7/29/23

True or False

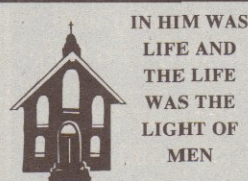
Q: Satan came to present himself before the Lord.

Q: Job believed that even after his body was destroyed, he would see God in his flesh.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Eria's Daughter, Sue

# Church Directory



IN HIM WAS  
LIFE AND  
THE LIFE  
WAS  
LIGHT OF  
MEN

**ABUNDING GRACE  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Rocky Pearce, Pastor  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.

**ABUNDANT LIFE  
CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.**  
Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**ALBERTON BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sam Self, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

**BETHLE AME CHURCH**  
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Class . . . 6:30 p.m.

**BETHANY BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Greg Cotter, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Disciple Train . . . 5:30 p.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

**BLUFF SPRINGS  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**BROOKLYN BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Robert Davis, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.

**CHESTNUT GROVE  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
Remonia Smith, Pastor  
Church Service . . . 9:00 a.m.  
2nd & 4th Sundays  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
2nd & 4th Sundays

**CORNERSTONE BIBLE  
CHURCH**  
Larry Mills, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.

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**COVENANT COMMUNITY  
CHURCH**  
Paul Jackson, Pastor  
Sunday Fellowship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week & meal" . . . 5:30 p.m.  
Bible Study & Prayer . . . 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**DAMASCUS BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Steve Watson, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**DORCAS BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

**EANON BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Mark Ward, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:15 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Philip Box, Minister  
Bible Study . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD**  
David Noble, Pastor  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:45 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 5:00 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY**  
H.L. Buckner, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Night . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Thur. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.

**ELBA DELIVERANCE  
TABERNACLE**  
Allen Richards, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

**ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Dwight Johnson, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA FIRST BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Kit Johnson, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

**ELBA UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
Steve Reneau, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Services . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

**ELBA ZION BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Lovell Martin, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.

**HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH**  
Mark Cooper, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.  
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**EVANGELIST TEMPLE  
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
Timothy Williams, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet 7:30 p.m.

**FAITH CHAPEL  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Phillip Adcock, Pastor  
Sunday Morning . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD -  
KINSTON**  
Denny Bradshaw, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:15 p.m.

**KINSTON 1st BAPT  
CHURCH**  
Heath Fountain, Pastor  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.

**LIVING WORD CHURCH**  
Derrick Stinson, Pastor  
Saturday Service . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Service . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Youth Service 6:00 p.m.  
Thurs. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.

**LIBERTY CHURCH OF  
CHRIST**  
Greg Hanchey, Minister  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.

**LOVE'S WAY CHURCH**  
Charles Jones, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday Evening . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

**MT. CALVARY BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
J.R. Parks, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
1st & 3rd Sundays

**MT. GILEAD BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Dewey Emfinger, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.

**MT. OLIVE BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Olan Strickland, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**MT. ZION BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Will Jordan, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

**HOLY TEMPLE COGIC  
Glenwood, AL**  
Sunday Prayer . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Worship Service . . . 11:00 a.m.

**INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Wesley D. Ard, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

**INO BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Garry Winstead, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 8:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

**NEW JERUSALEM  
CHURCH OF GOD IN  
CHRIST - ENTERPRISE**  
W. K. Ellison, Pastor  
Morning Worship . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Evening . . . 7:00 p.m.  
Friday Evening . . . 7:00 p.m.

**NEWBIA BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Ed Russell, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Disciple Train . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Evening Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**NEW BROCKTON  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
Dr. Craig Bailey, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:30 p.m.

**NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Terry Goodwin, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Bible Study . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:00 p.m.

**NEW EBENEZER  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Randall Pearson, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 5:30 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:00 p.m.

**NEW GLORIOUS COGIC**  
James Starks Jr., Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Bib Stud Wed . . . 6:00 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Allen Dias, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 4:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN ASSEMBLY  
OF GOD CHURCH**  
Brad Sasser, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HOPE BAPT  
CHURCH**  
Lanny Shepard, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW PHILADELPHIA  
CHURCH OF GOD IN  
CHRIST**  
Loreat Flowers, Minister  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
2nd & 4th Sundays

**OAK GROVE BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Julian Mitchell, Pastor  
1st, 4th Sun. Morn.  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

**OLD TABERNACLE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
Lee Jones, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.

**PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF  
GOD**  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

**PINEY GROVE ASSEMBLY  
OF GOD - SAMSON**  
Terry McCrummen, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**PRAISE & GLORY  
WORSHIP CENTER**  
Roy L. Turner, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

**ROCKY HEAD M.B.  
CHURCH**  
A. R. Williams, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.  
2nd & 4th Sundays

**ROETON BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Kerry Saxon, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

**SHADY GROVE AME  
CHURCH**  
James Boots, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

**SHILOH BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Leon Fortune, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 4:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

**TAYLOR HILL COMMUNITY  
BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Night Service 5:00 p.m.

**THE CHURCH OF  
JESUS CHRIST**  
Pastor Bishop E.H. Hill  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Noon Worship . . . 12 noon  
Even. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.  
Youth Ser. Mon . . . 7:00 p.m.  
Wed Bible Class . . . 7:00 p.m.  
Fri Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.

**THE WAY OF HOLINESS  
CHURCH, Elba**  
Max Reed, Minister  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.  
Tuesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

**TRINITY BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
C.P. Davis, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VANDERBILT HOLINESS  
CHURCH**  
Donald Mills, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VICTORIA BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Lucas Taylor, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:45 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VICTORY TABERNACLE**  
Ruby Lawson, Pastor  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

**WESTSIDE BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Ken Wilson, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

**WHITEWATER BAPTIST  
CHURCH**  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

**WISE MILL ASSEMBLY  
OF GOD**  
Dustin Wisecarver, Pastor  
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship



## LIFESTYLES

## Country Cathedral Church to host Women's Conference this Saturday, June 24, in Opp, Ala

Country Cathedral Church, located at 31022 US Hwy. 84 E, Opp, Ala., will host Saturday, June 24, its Women's Conference 2023.

There is no cost to participate, and door prizes will be given away.

Registration begins at 9:15 a.m. with a morning service at 10 a.m. Lunch will follow the morning service.

The afternoon session will begin at 1 p.m. Speakers include Ruby Lawson, pastor of Deliverance Tabernacle Church, New Brockton, Ala., and De Etta Pridgen, Women's Ministries of Bartow, Fla.

All women are invited to attend.

## Harris Temple Church family to honor Assistant Pastor Johnathan Lockett

Supt. William K. Ellison and The Harris Temple Church Family pause to celebrate one of God's chosen vessels in the person of Assistant Pastor Johnathan Lockett.



All are invited to come to an Appreciation Service honoring Elder Lockett this Saturday, June 24, at 6 p.m., at Harris Temple COIC. Guest Speaker: Pastor Mark Moore Jr. - Senior Pastor of Faith Covenant Church in Atlanta, Georgia!



**THAT'S A LOT OF RICE!** A hibachi dinner fundraiser was conducted last Saturday, June 17, to help the Elba High School FCCLA program raise funds to send several students to the national FCCLA STAR events in July. Nationals will be held in Denver, Colorado. Family and friends of the students participating in this trip came together to prepare a hibachi meal of steak and chicken along with fried rice, cabbage and veggies. Over 160 plates were sold and served last Saturday night. All the food preparations took place at the Elba Country Club. Cooks for the event are pictured above. They are: (front, l to r) Robby Forbes, Chris Hudson, Neil Grantham, LoWayne Parks, and Chris Moseley; and (back) Khrist Smith and Rod Morgan. The Elba High School FCCLA sponsor is Christina Morgan. The hibachi fundraiser was deemed a deliciously, good success!

## Seniors age 60 and older encouraged to get active with Elba Senior Center

Seniors age 60 and older are encouraged to attend the Elba Senior Citizens Center.

Along with nutritious meals five days a week, the director works with seniors to help them apply for several programs they may qualify, including Farmers Market Vouchers, HRDC- Energy Assistance, Food Assistance, Medicaid Waiver, Senior Rx Program, Medicare Savings Program, etc. Seniors must be an active participant at the Elba Senior center for the director to sign them up for the qualifying programs.

To become a center participant, attendance is not based on income. This is a social place to come have fun and find or make new friends. If interested in joining the center stop by or call (334) 897-3019. The center is located at 304 N. Factory Ave. (across from the Elba Police Department).

Seniors age 60 and older that cannot come to the center may qualify for meals being brought to their home.

For questions, call center director Donna Falls at (334) 897-3019.

## ADPH reports statewide increase in cyclospora infections

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) is investigating multiple reports of Cyclospora infection statewide. ADPH has seen more infections with this parasite since April, and there are more than twice as many cases as were reported in Alabama last year.

Cyclosporiasis is a gastrointestinal illness caused by a microscopic parasite. In the U.S., people can get sick with cyclosporiasis by eating fresh produce that was grown outside the U.S. and contaminated with Cyclospora.

Cyclosporiasis can be mild or serious and cause an illness that can result in prolonged gastrointestinal (gut) distress, including watery diarrhea with frequent, sometimes explosive, bowel movements that can last for weeks. In severe cases, Cyclospora infection can require hospitalization. Most people with healthy immune systems will recover without treatment. Some people may require treatment, such as people with poor health or weakened immune systems, including those with HIV/AIDS, cancer, or taking immunosuppressive medications.

Cyclosporiasis is not contagious. There is no evidence it spreads from person to person. If you have had diarrhea, stomach cramps, bloating or other gastrointestinal symptoms lasting longer than several days, talk to your healthcare provider.

To help prevent Cyclospora infection:

- Avoid food or water that might have been contaminated with stool.

- Wash hands with soap and warm water before and after handling or preparing fruits and vegetables.

- Wash all fruits and vegetables thoroughly under running water before eating, cutting, or cooking.

For more information about cyclosporiasis, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/index.html>

## "Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets Monday nights at the Rabbit Hole in Elba, Ala.

The "Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets every Monday night at the Rabbit Hole, 218 Factory Ave., Elba, beginning at 6 p.m.

This is a safe, confidential space to talk, network and grow in recovery.

For more information, contact Rory Vignola on Facebook.

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### New Hope Senior Center looking for new participants

The New Hope Senior Citizens Center is taking applications for new participants. Must be age 60 or older. For more information, contact Conzuella Banks, center manager.



## CLASSIFIEDS

### The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

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Public Notices also are posted on the websites: [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com) and [www.alabamapublicnotices.com](http://www.alabamapublicnotices.com) at no extra charge

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA (ELBA DIVISION)

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SELENA M. KING DECEASED

CASE NO PC 2023-034

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to ROY BURLEON KING, as Executor of the Estate of Selena M. King, deceased, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons hav-

ing claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

ROY BURLEON KING  
Executor of the Estate of Selena M. King, deceased.

6-15,22,29-pd

IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LINDA R. BAUER, DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA (Elba Division)

CASE No: PC 2023-035

#### NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of LINDA R. BAUER, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate that they are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or they will be barred. /s/ Richard A. Bauer  
RICHARD A. BAUER  
Personal Representative of said Estate  
6-15,22,29-pd

#### ----- The Moore You Know Column: Continued from Page 2 -----

every aspect of our lives. Biden's Department of Energy has proposed heavy regulation of gas stoves, and his Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Administration created a rule that makes 29 million gun owners instant felons for possessing legal firearms with pistol brace attachments. Recently, House Republicans passed legislation that would block the Department of Energy's regulation of gas stoves and passed a resolution that would stop the ATF's unconstitutional pistol brace rule.

\*\*\*  
Recently, I led two bipartisan, bicameral bills to help our farmers, ranchers, and foresters. The Forest

Data Modernization Act provides updated technology and easily accessible data to Alabama foresters to help meet the demands of a rapidly growing market.

The Feral Swine Eradication Act authorizes a pilot program with proven results to trap, remove, monitor, and assess land on which feral swine reside. Feral swine have caused millions of dollars in damage on agricultural operations across Alabama and can undo years of hard work on Alabama's farms, ranches, and forests toward feeding our country. This program aims to stop the \$1.5 billion in damage that feral swine cause each year.

\*\*\*  
If you need help from my office with the VA, IRS, or another federal agency, or if we can help you with a government service like processing a passport request, I hope you will reach out to us. We've resolved over 3,000 cases since I took office in 2021. Visit one of my offices in Wetumpka, Dothan, Andalusia, Troy, or Washington, call us at 334-478- 6330, or visit [barrymoore.house.gov](http://barrymoore.house.gov) to learn how we can help.



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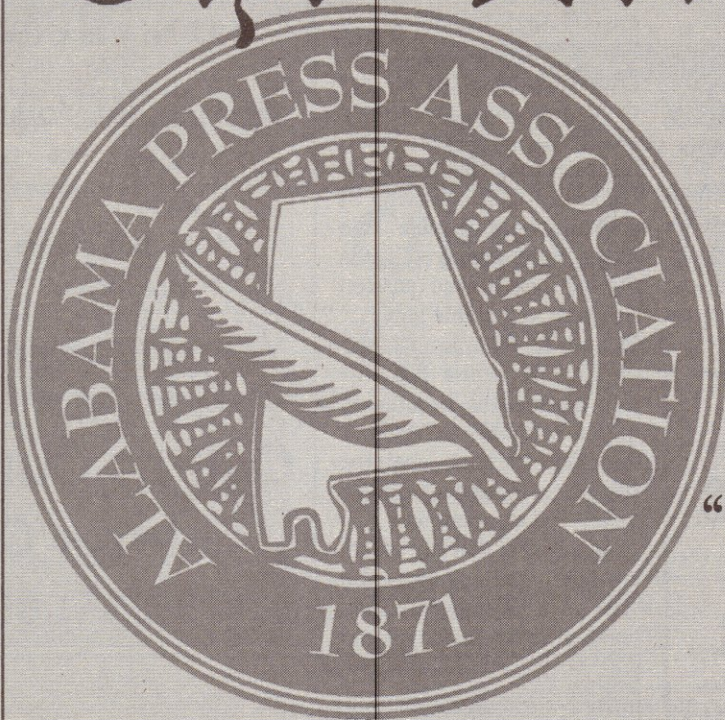
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Sports Editor





## SPORTS NEWS

## Views From

## The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

*A couple of weeks ago* our daughter Melanie was anxiously waiting for her young son Cannon to start crawling, and when he did she couldn't wait for him to learn to walk. Well, now that he has begun to walk I guess the next goal will be him talking with a large vocabulary. One day not that far in the future she will be wanting the world to slow down, but until then every day will be an adventure and a lifelong memory.

## For what it is worth....

\*\*\* *The Dothan Eagle* announced its annual 'Super 12' high school softball selections recently and receiving honorable mention was Elba Lady Tiger first-baseman Emily Richardson. The hard-hitting senior led the Lady Tigers in home runs and knocked in a bunch of runs as she helped Elba to its first winning record in four years and a fifth place finish at the South Region, at Gulf Shores. Richardson was one of only two seniors on the Lady Tiger roster, and it was her leadership and effort that hopefully will lead the way for the younger players on the team to work hard, get better and lead the Lady Tigers to many more banner seasons in years ahead.

\*\*\* *The Alabama Sports Writers Association* announced its annual all-state high school softball picks recently with a total of 40 Wiregrass area players making the honored list, led by 1A state champion Brantley. Lady Bulldog pitcher Kaylee Navarre was named as the 1A 'Player of the Year' and continued the tradition of former Lady Bulldog standouts Alex Wilcox and Leanna Johnson to take home the top honor in the class, while eighth-grade slugger Alex Grimes was also a first team selection, eighth-grade pitcher Anna Claire Free was a second team pick, and senior Campbell Hawthorne received honorable mention. Brantley has dominated softball at the high school level for a decade, and with two standout eighth-graders on this year's team will no doubt continue that success for years to come!

Kinston also had two young players included on the all-state list with freshman pitcher Lilli Sumblin earning second team honors, and freshman teammate Camdyn Norris earning honorable mention. The Lady Bulldogs from Coffee County got better and better as the season went along a year ago, and with youth and skill on the roster you know better days are on the way.

\*\*\* *I read in an online interview* with AHSAA executive director Alvin Briggs that studies have begun to move the semifinals of the high school football playoffs to neutral sites across the state. With two semifinal games in each classification that would mean hosting a total of fourteen games at various sites, and no doubt staggering the dates of the games to match the finals the next week. Possible sites could include Troy University, South Alabama, Alabama State, Jacksonville State, and North Alabama, not to mention Montgomery's Cramton Bowl, Mobile's Ladd-Peebles Stadium, and the Hoover Met. I have always been in favor of moving the semifinals to a neutral site to make it fair to both teams, and hope the AHSAA will do its homework quickly and make the move as soon as possible.

\*\*\* *The SEC released* its much anticipated conference schedules for the 2024 college football season last week and according to the 'so-called' conference experts a major crisis was avoided and rivalries between many teams were preserved. The announcement was one of great interest to coaches and fans due to the fact the league will grow from 14 to 16 teams in the 2024 season because of the addition of Texas and Oklahoma, and because league officials made it clear they wanted to avoid sending any teams back to a location they traveled to in 2023, and to keep all sixteen schedules balanced. The '24 conference schedule for Alabama will include both teams that were in last season's SEC finals with a home game against Georgia and a road trip to LSU, as well road games at Tennessee, Vanderbilt and Oklahoma, and home games against Missouri, Auburn and South Carolina. With the schedule change, former Western Division rivals such as Ole Miss, Mississippi State, Texas A & M and Arkansas will now dot the schedule every other season. Auburn probably wasn't as happy as Tide fans since the Tigers will hit the road for games against both Alabama and Georgia, even though the other two road games will not be anywhere as tough against Kentucky and Missouri. Home games will include Arkansas, Vanderbilt, Oklahoma and Texas A & M. Gone from the schedule in '24 will be former West division foes LSU, Mississippi State, Ole Miss and Texas A & M. While there is not an easy schedule on the list, local sportswriters for all the teams as well as fans will no doubt sing the blues. Yep, football season will be just as interesting as ever!

\*\*\* *In closing....* In the Mularz household we don't have to look for a reason to celebrate in the months of May and June, since my birthday and Mother's Day both fall in May, and this year my wife's birthday and Father's Day came only one day apart. We really aren't big on parties, but do combine the special occasions each month and try to at least let someone else do the cooking by going out to eat. Maybe if we could find another holiday in one of the months we could maybe find someone to help clean the house and cut the grass.

## Navarre named 'Player of the Year'

## Brantley dominates all-state softball picks

The Alabama Sports Writers Association announced its 2023 'All-State' high school softball selections last week and named the 'Player of the Year' in Class 1A was Brantley Lady Bulldog pitcher Kaylee Navarre.

Navarre, a senior, pitched in 36 games this season in leading the Lady Bulldogs to the Class 1A state championship and posted a 24-10 record. She had a 2.20 earned run average and allowed 90 hits and 76 walks in 175 innings, while recording 338 strikeouts. At the plate, Navarre batted .378, with a .483 on-base percentage. She blasted 4 home runs, eight doubles and one triple, scored 31 runs and knocked in 38 runs. She was successful on 21 of 23 stolen base attempts, drew 19 bases on balls and struck out only nine times.

Joining Navarre as a first team all-state selection was eighth-grade standout Alex Grimes. Grimes, a catcher/pitcher, batted .467 and had an on-base percentage of .564. She hit 13 home runs, 17 doubles and 5 triples, knocked in 58 runs and scored 60 runs. She was 41 of 43 on stolen base attempts, drew 25 base on balls and struck out only 12 times. In six pitching appearances, the talented Lady Bulldog posted a 2-0 record with a 0.00 earned run average. She logged 14 innings inside the pitching circle and struck out 27 batters.

Named 'Second Team' all-state in Class 1A were Brantley's Anna Claire

Free and Kinston's Lilli Sumblin.

Free, an eighth-grade pitcher/catcher, batted .405 with an on-base percentage of .487. She hit five home runs, nine doubles and 11 triples, knocked in 56 runs and scored 60 runs. She was also 31 of 32 on stolen base attempts, drew 18 base on balls and struck out just 10 times. As a pitcher, she posted a 7-3 record, with one save, and struck out 89 batters in 68 innings.

Sumblin, a freshman, pitcher, posted an 11-8 record, with one save. She posted a 2.19 earned run average and recorded 171 strikeouts and 32 walks in 102 innings inside the pitching circle. She helped the Lady Bulldogs to an area title and a fourth place finish at the South Region.

Honorable mention all-state selections in Class 1A included Brantley's Campbell Hawthorne and Kinston's Camdyn Norris.

Hawthorne, a senior, second-baseman, batted .390 with a .485 on-base percentage, and hit one home run, 12 doubles, three triples, with 22 runs batted in and 58 runs scored. She was 40 of 43 on stolen base attempts, drew 14 walks, was hit by a pitch 12 times and struck out 12 times.

Norris, a freshman, first baseman/third baseman, batted .475 with a .550 on-base percentage and hit three home runs, four doubles and four triples, knocked in 39 runs and scored 31 runs. She was 5 of 5 on stolen base attempts, drew 16 walks and struck out 12 times.

Other area players



KAYLEE NAVARRE was named the Class 1A 'Player of the Year' last week by state sportswriters.

(Photo by Cody Nichols)

included on the 'All-State' list included:

(Class 7A) 1st team - Georgia Lessman, senior, outfielder, Enterprise; Honorable Mention - Skylar Frey, junior, pitcher, Enterprise.

(Class 5A) 1st Team - Maddie Williams, sophomore, infielder, Rehoboth; Gracie Alberson, senior, outfielder, Rehoboth; 2nd Team - Mykala Worley, senior, outfielder, Carroll; Lizza Varnum, senior, outfielder, Headland.

(Class 4A) 1st Team - Emily Adams, freshman, pitcher, Houston Academy; Mary Suzan Aman, junior, outfielder, Houston Academy; 2nd Team - Gracie Ward, junior, outfielder, Slocumb; Makaley Boswell, senior, designated hitter, Geneva; Honorable Mention - Ansleigh Smith, junior, catcher, Houston Academy.

(Class 3A) 1st Team - Savannah Money, senior, pitcher, Ashford; Reese Cauley, junior, designated hitter, Opp; Honorable Mention - Caroline Courson, senior, pitcher, Opp; Raeligh Jordan, senior, outfielder, Ashford.

(Class 2A) 1st Team - Ellie Cox, freshman,

Wicksburg; Ainsley Watts, senior, catcher, G.W. Long; Megan Cochran, senior, infielder, Wicksburg; Ally Whitehead, junior, utility, G.W. Long; 2nd Team - Caylee Johnson, senior, pitcher, Samson; Chloe Joyner, freshman, pitcher, Wicksburg; Kaydee Phillips, senior, infielder, Ariton; Ella Grace Kelley, sophomore, infielder, Wicksburg; Makayla Phillips, senior, outfielder, G.W. Long; Honorable Mention - Lacey Kelley, sophomore, pitcher, Luverne; Zyan Peterson, junior, outfielder, Luverne; Hitter of the Year - Megan Cochran, senior, Wicksburg.

(Class 1A) 1st Team - Kaylee Navarre, senior, pitcher, Brantley; Alex Grimes, eighth-grader, designated hitter, Brantley; 2nd Team - Lilli Sumblin, freshman, pitcher, Kinston; Anna Claire Free, eighth-grader, utility, Brantley; Honorable Mention - Campbell Hawthorne, senior, infielder, Brantley; Camdyn Norris, freshman, infielder, Kinston; Elizabeth Cross, senior, utility, Red Level; Player of the Year - Kaylee Navarre, senior, Brantley.



ALEX GRIMES, an 8th grader at Brantley, was named 1st team All-State softball in Class 1A.

(Photo by Cody Nichols)

## Lady Tiger Emily Richardson is honorable mention 'Super 12' high school softball pick

*The Dothan Eagle* announced its 2023 'Super 12' high school softball selections recently with Elba's Emily Richardson receiving honorable mention on the elite list.

Richardson, a senior, first-baseman, batted .443 with an on-base percentage of .528 during the season to help lead the Lady Tigers to a runner-up spot in the area and a fifth place finish at the South Region. She had 19 singles, 4 doubles, 1 triple and 3 home runs as the Lady Tiger clean-up batter, and collected 23 runs batted in, while scoring 27 runs.

"Emily really stepped up this season as both a ball player and a team leader," stated Elba Lady

Tiger head coach Melissa Mularz. "She accepted her role on the team, on the field and in the batters box, and played a major role in the success of the team. She was one of only two seniors on the team, and stepped up as a teammate and a team leader."

Also receiving honorable mention on the 'Super 12' list were Kinston Lady Bulldog teammates Cadence Elmore and Lilli Sumblin, and Zion Chapel Lady Rebel Madison Meeks.

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EMILY RICHARDSON, a senior at Elba, was an HM pick on the 'Super 12' prep softball team.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

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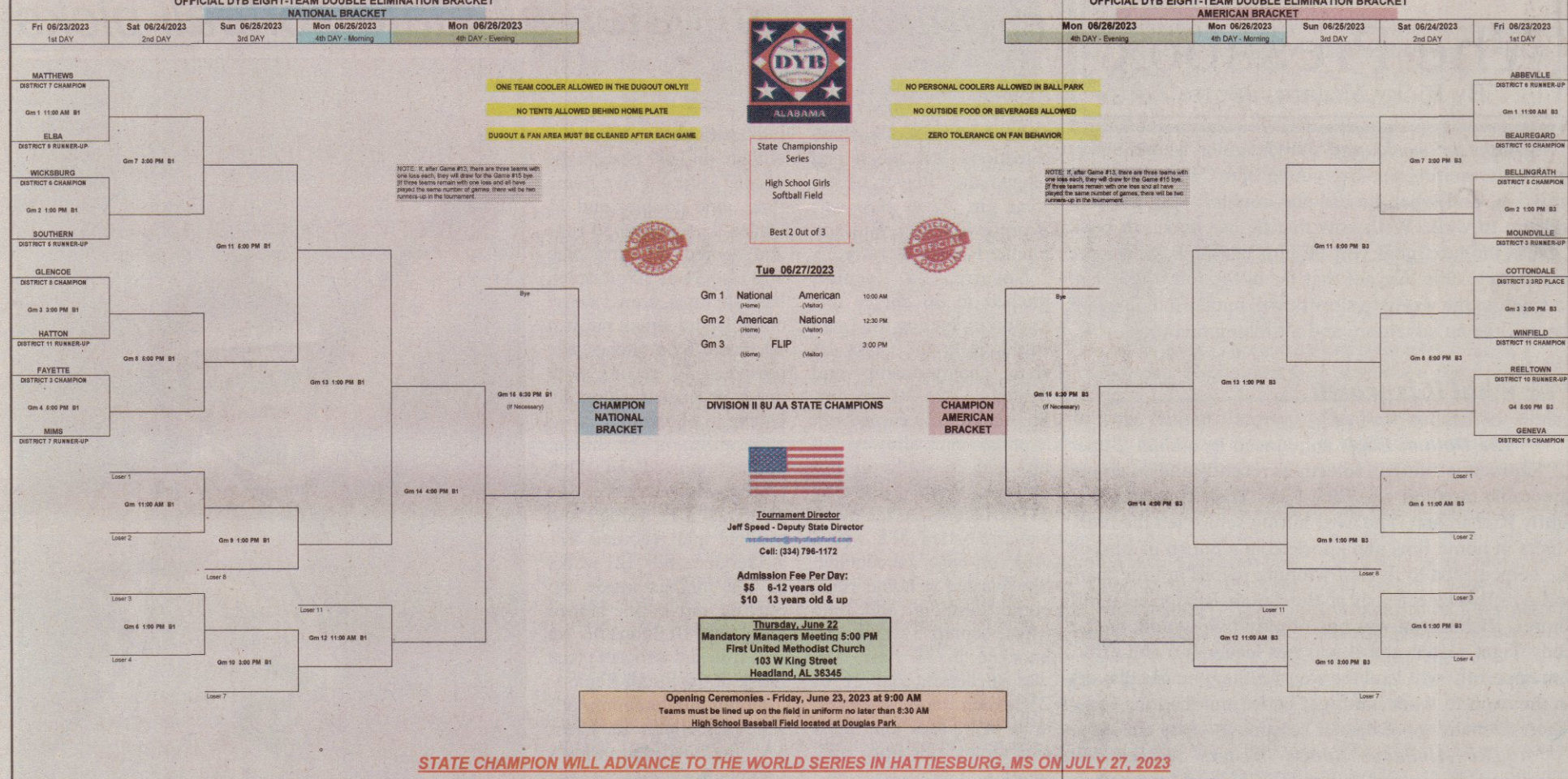
The local area will be represented by three different teams in the Dixie Youth Baseball (DYB) Division II State Tournaments, set to begin Friday morning, June 23, in Headland, Ala. DYB Division II AA (8U) Coach Pitch tourney will include the District 9 runner up team from Elba while the DYB Division II Ozone (12U) tourney will include the District 9 runner up team from Kinston and District 9 third place team from New Brockton. See brackets below for more tourney information.

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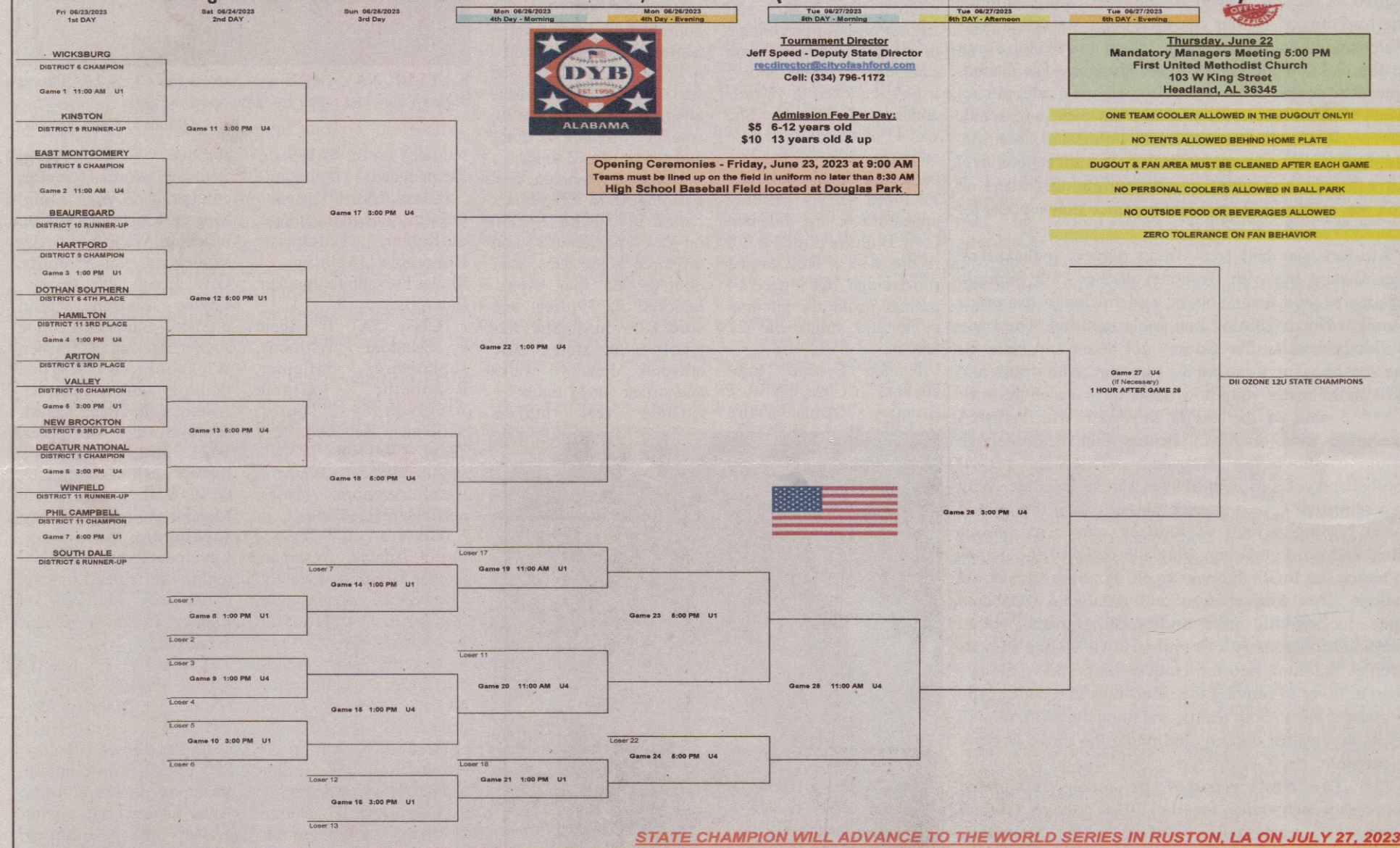
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# ZCBT

(Continued from Page ONE)

top but a much longer way from the bottom.

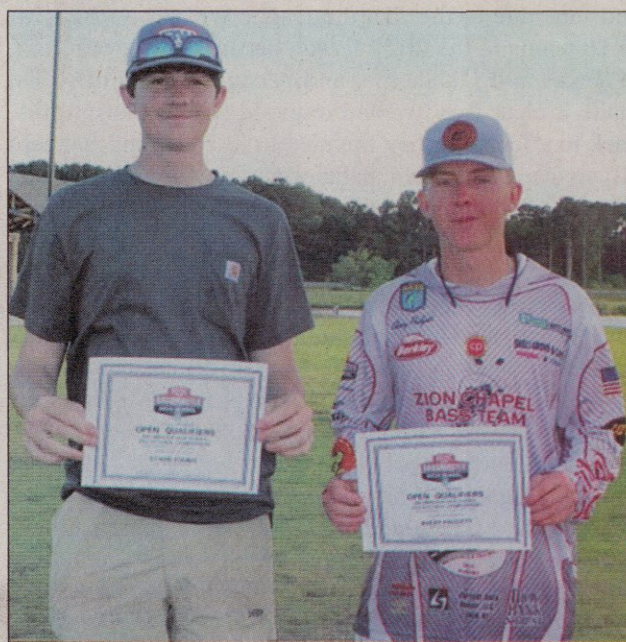
Although they did not catch the big ones, there were still some positives.

Padgett received the Alabama BASS Nation William c. Florence, Jr. Scholarship, and both members of Team Padgett/Young were recognized for having qualified for the national championship through the open tournament held earlier in the spring at Lay Lake. Each state is allowed to send a limited number of teams to nationals.

Padgett and Young are wrapping up their senior year on a high note as they plan their final high school tournament. They will go to Lake Hartwell in South Carolina the week of July 23-29! Here they will be competing with the top high school anglers from across the United States.

Once again, the Zion Chapel Bass Team thanks their sponsors, families, and community for making it possible for them to pursue their dreams.

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**Ethan Young and Avery Padgett show off their certifications as qualifiers to compete in the national championships set for July 23-29 in South Carolina.**



**Avery Padgett (right) was presented the Alabama BASS Nation William C. Florence Jr. scholarship.**